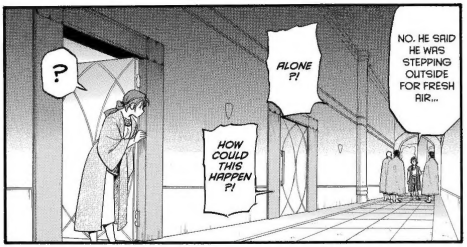
HEY! IT'S TIME FOR THE SHIFT CHANGE!
WHERE'D HE GO?
H—
?!
HIGH-NESS !!
WHERE IS PRINCE ARSLAN, HIS HIGHNESS ?!
WHAT IS THE MATTER ?
HIS HIGHNESS, IS HE HERE IN THESE QUARTERS ?!

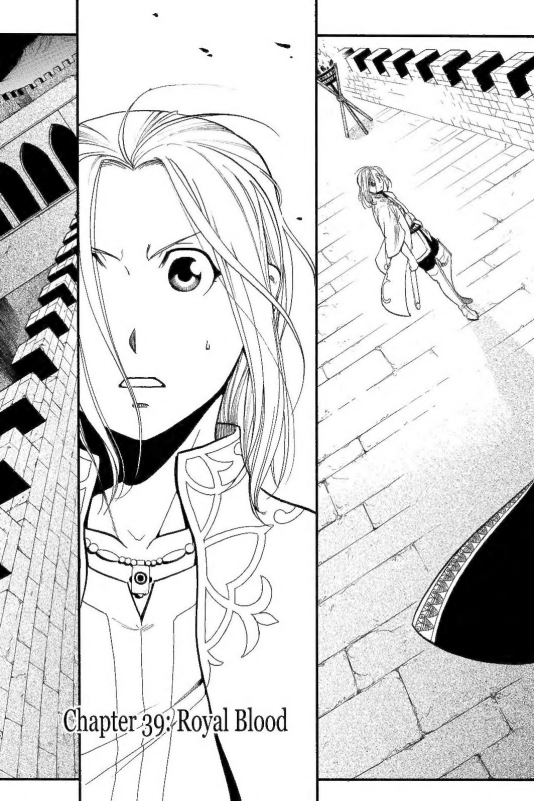

NO. HE SAID HE WAS STEPPING OUTSIDE FOR FRESH AIR...
ALONE?!
HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN?!
?

A GUARD WAS FOUND DEAD.
?!
THERE MAY BE AN INTRUDER IN THE FORTRESS.
WE MUST PROTECT HIS HIGHNESS!
!!

ELAM!
WHAT?!
I'LL GO TOO!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!
LET'S SPLIT UP AND SEARCH FOR HIM!

I'M COUNTING ON YOU!
TELL ME! WE'LL LOOK FOR HIM TOGETHER!
WHERE DID HIS HIGHNESS SAY HE WAS GOING?
I WAS CARELESS!
CARELESS!
I'M A BUMBLING BUFFOON !!
WHY DID I LEAVE HIS HIGHNESS UNATTENDED ?!

THE HEROIC LEGEND OF ARSLAN


Chapter 39: Royal Blood

SHUDDER
ぶるっ
ARE YOU ANDRAGORAS' BRAT?!
ANSWER ME.
I ASK THAT YOU NAME YOURSELF AS WELL!
CROWN PRINCE? YOU DARE DECLARE YOURSELF CROWN PRINCE?!
I AM ANDRAGORAS' SON... ARSLAN, CROWN PRINCE OF PARS.
INDEED ...
SHAK
...I WILL NOT KILL YOU QUICKLY.
YOU ARE NOTHING MORE THAN A WRETCHED PUP SPAWNED BY AN UNDERHANDED USURPER!

THE SIXTEEN LONG YEARS OF HARDSHIP I ENDURED ...
...CANNOT BE SETTLED WITH A SINGLE BLOW!
FIRST, I WILL LOP OFF YOUR RIGHT HAND.
WHEN NEXT WE MEET, I WILL HAVE YOUR LEFT HAND...
IF AFTER THAT YOU STILL LIVE... PERHAPS I'LL TAKE YOUR RIGHT FOOT.
BEING BORN INTO THIS WORLD AS ANDRAGORAS' SON WAS YOUR TRANSGRESSION.
IF YOU BLAME ANYONE, BLAME YOUR FATHER!

WHAM
BAM
ガラー!
clatter

SOME-
ONE...
HFF
...
KH...
WHUD
I WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO CALL FOR HELP.
KOFF
GHACK

KNEEL BEFORE ME...
...AND I WILL MERCIFULLY SLICE OFF THAT RIGHT HAND CLEANLY IN ONE INSTANT.

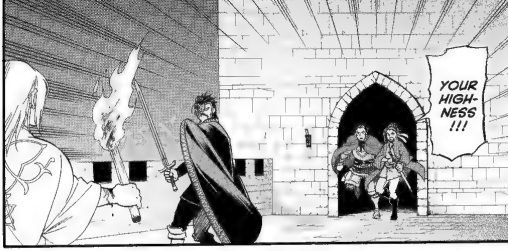
HFF
HFF
SNRK
SNKT
...! AUGH ...!!!

UGH ...
... NGH ...!!
I NEED A WEAPON ...

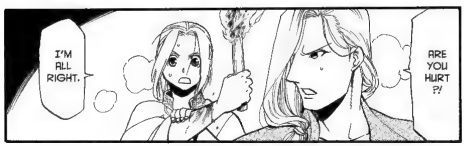
GRD
ANY WEAP-ON...
SHIDE
SSSSH
AAAHH !!!
UGH ...
CRACK
POP
CRACKLE

CRACKLE
GUH ...!!
WHOOM
...
...
...

FWOOM
THIS MAN...
HE FEARS FIRE!
RECOIL
KSHK
KSHK
KSHK
STEP


YOUR HIGH-NESS !!!

WHOOSH


ARE YOU HURT ?!
I'M ALL RIGHT.

THAT WAS HIM ...?!
HE IS THE MAN WHO COMPELLED KHARLAN'S BETRAYAL AND INVITED CHROS INTO PARS.
WHO IS THAT MASKED MAN?
WHO IN THE WORLD IS HE, BEHIND THE MASK...?
HE SEEMS TO BEAR A GRUDGE AGAINST MY FATHER FROM BEFORE I WAS BORN.
...HE SAID THAT HE HAS SUFFERED SIXTEEN YEARS OF HARDSHIP.
ALLOW ME TO FACE THIS MAN.
IF I SAID IT HERE, THE GROUND BENEATH HIS HIGHNESS' FEET WOULD COLLAPSE.
...I CANNOT SAY IT.

YOU'D DO WELL TO COME AT ME ALL AT ONCE.
IT IS THE ONLY WAY THE LIKES OF YOU COULD EVER BEST ME.

ANY INTRUDER WHO DARES SET FOOT INSIDE MY FORTRESS, I WILL SEE SLAIN BY MY OWN TWO SWORDS!

NO, KISH-WARD!!
OUT OF CONSIDERATION FOR YOUR PROUD WORDS, I'LL MAKE YOUR DEATH QUICK AND PAINLESS!
THE CHEEK ON THIS ONE!

YOU MUST NOT KILL HIM!!!

IF YOU KILL THAT MAN, THE RIGHTFUL ROYAL LINE OF PARS WILL BE EXTINGUISHED !!
YOU MUST NOT KILL HIM!!!

KA-CRING
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG

CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
HRNG...

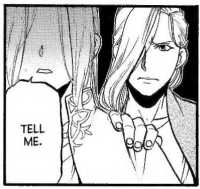
...ROOH!!
THRISH
!!
SPLASH

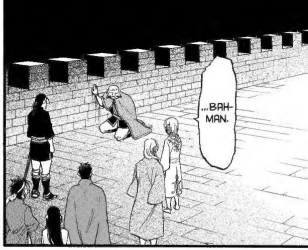
THEN HE'S AS GOOD AS ESCAPED ...
HE FELL INTO THE MOAT.

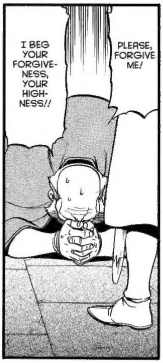
FOR BRAHMAN TO UTTER SUCH A THING, TWO CONDITIONS WOULD NEED TO BE MET.
"IF YOU KILL THE MAN WITH THE SILVER MASK, THE RIGHTFUL ROYAL LINE OF PARS WILL BE EXTINGUISHED."

AND SECOND ...
FIRST... THAT SILVER MASK MUST HAVE INHERITED THE BLOOD OF THE RIGHTFUL ROYAL LINE OF PARS.

THAT PRINCE ARSLAN
...MUST NOT HAVE INHERITED THE BLOOD OF THE RIGHTFUL ROYAL LINE OF PARS.


TELL ME.


...BRAHMAN.


I BEG YOUR FORGIVENESS, YOUR HIGHNESS!!
PLEASE, FORGIVE ME!

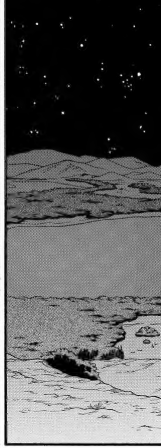
THOSE WORDS ...
WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

I DO NOT KNOW WHAT IS RIGHT ANYMORE...
I SPOKE THOSE WORDS IN PANIC.

I SPOKE THOSE WORDS IN PANIC.
BAHMAN... I SHOULD HAVE CUT YOU DOWN!!
IT'S AN EMER-GENCY !!
STAMP
STAMP
STAMP
WE HAVE AN EMER-GENCY !!
LORD BAH-MAN ?!
?!
WHAT HAP-PENED ...?
WHAT IS THIS EMER-GEN-CY?
SPEAK.

A SIND-HURAN FORCE NUMBER-ING IN THE TENS OF THOU-SANDS!
THEY ARE CROSSING THE BORDER UNDER COVER OF NIGHT!!
THAT DIM GADHEVI IS LAUGH-ABLY INCOMPE-TENT AT WARFARE.
CROSSING THE RIVER IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, ONLY TO BE PUSHED BACK IMMEDIATELY? HA!

IT IS I, RAJENDRA, WHOSE NAME WILL BE FOREVER ENGRAVED INTO SINDHURAN HISTORY!



ALL THE MORE REASON TO KEEP THE THRONN AWAY FROM THAT FOOL.